GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4354
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2002
EXPORT IMPORT POLICY
ANANTRAO GUDHE;NEDURUMALLI JANARDHANA REDDY;RAMSHETH THAKUR;RENUKA CHOWDHURY;SHYAMA SINGH;YEMPARALA VENKATESWARA RAO

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the previous export - import policy of the Government could not achieve its desired goals;

(b) if so, whether deficiencies of previous policy have been taken into consideration before the finalisation of present EXIM policy, 2002-2007;

(c) if so, the main changes made in the present EXIM policy;

(d) whether exporters, importers and State Governments have been consulted before finalising the export promotion schemes for the next five years;

(e) if so, whether export promotion schemes for the States have been notified;

(f) if so, the details of such schemes and the funding pattern for those schemes;

(g) whether the Government have worked out a package of incentives for the optimum involvement of States and exporters in a big way to boost exports and to achieve 18% annual growth rate during the next five years; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) & (b) : The previous Export Import Policy managed to fulfill the goals of enhancing technological strengths and efficiency of Indian agriculture, industry and services; stimulating sustained economic growth; accelerating the country`s transition to globally vibrant economy and providing consumers with good quality products at reasonable prices.

(c) : The EXIM Policy 2002-07 has initiated certain measures such as recognising towns of export excellence; removal of all exports restrictions barring a few sensitive items; transforming specified rural regions as regional rural motors through the concept of the Agricultural Export Zones; permitting facilities such as overseas banking units, hedging of commodity risks and external commercial borrowings in the Special Economic Zones; introduction of transparent and simple procedures, and special dispensation to status holders. These measures in the EXIM Policy coupled with the diversification of exports markets through region specific measures such as Focus LAC (Latin American Countries), Focus Africa and Focus CIS (Commonwealth of Independent States); emphasis on the exports of 106 high export potential items identified in the Medium Term Export Strategy; MarketAccess Initiative and approval of funds for the Assistance to States for Infrastructural development of Exports (ASIDE) are the major changes in the new EXIM Policy.

(d) to (h) : Yes Sir. The feedback of exporters, importers and State Government was taken cognizance of before finalising the export promotion schemes for the next five years. A scheme known as Assistance to States for Infrastructural development of Exports (ASIDE) was formulated in the year 2000 to provide funds to the states based on the twin criteria of gross exports and the rate of growth of exports from the different states. 80% of the funds are being allotted to the States based on the above twin criteria and the remaining 20% will be utilised by the centre for various infrastructure activities across State boundaries. An amount of Rs. 330 crores have been approved under this scheme for the year 2002-03. The Agri Export Zones (AEZ), which are intended to promote agricultural exports from the country and providing remunerative returns to the farming community in a sustained manner are identified by the State Governments. The package of services in these zones would be managed and coordinated by the State Government